

Appendix A

Cultural Resources Coordination



Copy

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-3435

November 8, 2006

Planning, Project and Program Management Division
Planning Branch
Environmental Resources Section

Honorable Levi Pesata
President
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Post Office Box 507
Dulce, New Mexico 87528

Dear President Pesata:

In September, 2004, Gannett Fleming West, Inc., on behalf of the Village of Questa, Taos County, New Mexico, contacted you regarding planned improvements to Questa's water system. The construction is located entirely within the Village of Questa. At that time, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) was not involved in this project. Currently, one-third of the project is complete.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Questa has asked the Corps for assistance on this project. Under Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, Public Law 106-53, as amended, the Corps is authorized to provide design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in New Mexico. The scope of this project has not changed.

The Corps would like give you the opportunity to provide any concerns you may have regarding this project. If you have questions, please contact Danielle Galloway, biologist at (505) 342-3661, Lance Lundquist, archaeologist at (505) 342-3671, or Julie Hall, Chief of Environmental Resources Section, at (505) 342-3281. If you do have concerns about this project, please provide comments to the above address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie A. Hall", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Julie A. Hall,
Chief, Environmental Resources
Section

Copies furnished:

Ms. Lorene Willis
Director, Cultural Affairs
Jicarilla Apache Nation
Post Office Box 507
Dulce, New Mexico 87528

[illegible]



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-3435

November 8, 2006

Planning, Project and Program Management Division
Planning Branch
Environmental Resources Section

Ms. Katherine Slick
State Historic Preservation Officer
New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs
Historic Preservation Division
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

RE: Concurrence Request Regarding Water System Improvements at
the Village of Questa, Taos County, New Mexico

Dear Ms. Slick:

Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, is seeking your concurrence in our determination of "No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties" for a water system improvement project at the Village of Questa, Taos County, New Mexico. Questa is about 22 miles north of Taos. The Village of Questa has requested Corps assistance. Work is being conducted under Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (WRDA), Public Law 106-53, as amended, which authorizes the Corps to provide design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in New Mexico.

This project involves replacement of portions of the existing water supply system, which includes replacement of existing waterline, valves, controls, and a booster station. The construction is located entirely within the Village of Questa, and the waterlines are located beneath existing roads.

The first of three phases for this project has already been completed. The first phase was funded by New Mexico Legislative Funds and a Community Development Block Grant administered by the New Mexico Local Government Division. The Corps, under Section 595 of the WRDA, will be funding partners with the Village of Questa for the remainder of this project.

Prior to Phase 1 construction, an intensive pedestrian archaeological survey of the Village of Questa's water and sanitary system was conducted by Townsend Archaeological Consultants (NMCRIIS 91472) and was reviewed by your office (HPD Log 073440). In your review, you concurred that upgrades from this project will offer "no adverse effect to significant cultural resources" (see Enclosure 1). Based on the information provided by Townsend (2005), the Corps concurs with the SHPO that there would be "No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties" by this project or on the historic and cultural resources of the region. Currently, the scope of the project is the same; the only change is the funding source.

Consistent with the Department of Defense's American Indian and Alaska Native Policy, signed by Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen on October 28, 1998, and based on the State of New Mexico Indian Affairs Department's 2006 Native American Consultations List, American Indian Tribes that have indicated they have concerns in Taos County have been contacted regarding the Corps' involvement in this project. To date, the Corps has received no indication of tribal concerns about this project.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 800.11, should previously unknown artifacts or cultural resource manifestations be encountered during construction, work would cease in the immediate vicinity of the resource. A determination of significance would be made, and a mitigation plan would be formulated in consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer and with American Indian Tribes that have cultural concerns in the area.

If you have questions regarding the Village of Questa Water System Improvement project, please contact Mr. Lance Lundquist, archaeologist, at (505) 342-3671.

Sincerely,



Julie A. Hall
Chief, Environmental Resources
Section

I CONCUR

Date

KATHERINE SLICK
NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICER

Enclosures

Copy Furnished: (w/o enclosures)

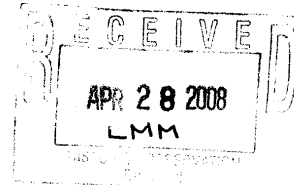
Don Klima, Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 809
Washington, D.C. 20004



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-3435

084164

April 25, 2008



Planning, Project and Program Management Division
Planning Branch
Environmental Resources Section

Ms. Katherine Slick
State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Division
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Ms. Slick:

Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, is seeking your concurrence in our determination of "no historic properties affected" for a water system improvement project at the Village of Questa (Questa), Taos County, New Mexico. Questa is about 22 miles north of Taos. Questa has requested Corps assistance under Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, Public Law 106-53, as amended, which authorizes the Corps to provide design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in New Mexico.

The proposed project is a 2000-foot expansion of Questa's current approximately 121,000-foot long water and sewer project. The original project involves replacement of portions of the existing water and sewer supply system, which includes replacement of existing lines, valves, controls, and a booster station. The construction is located entirely within the Village of Questa, and the waterlines are located beneath or in the right-of-way (ROW) of existing roads.

Ms. Lisa Meyer of your office concurred with the Corps' "no adverse effect" determination on the original project on November 13, 2006 (HPD Log 079742). Townsend Archaeological Consultants conducted the survey for the original project (NMCRI 91472).

Questa contacted the Corps about an expansion of the water and sewer line to service a proposed 29.4-acre business park located at the northern portion of the village. This expansion would involve placement of approximately 2,000 feet of 8" water and sewer pipe as well as a road to access the business park. Initially, an 8-10,000 square foot pre-fabricated manufacturing building on a concrete slab is planned for a 2-acre plot located just off State Route 522. Approximately half of the area to be piped is within the original

approved project area. The Corps is not assisting in the development or construction of the business park, with the exception of the water and sewer infrastructure.

Corps' archaeologists conducted a remote Archaeological Records Management Section (ARMS) search on April 1, 2008, and concluded that the Townsend survey stopped just short of the proposed expansion. On April 15, 2008, Corps' archaeologists surveyed the previously unsurveyed portions of the proposed water and sewer expansion, as well as the business park that will be made possible through this Federally-assisted infrastructure project. No cultural resources were located during the intensive pedestrian survey.

Part of the sewer line runs adjacent to State Route 522. The contractors for the village contacted the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) concerning this project. On September 28, 2007, Ms. Gwyneth Duncan of NMDOT indicated that a "cultural resources inventory" was not required for this project (see Enclosure 1). The ARMS database indicates that the east side of the road has been surveyed, and potentially the west. As this project is on the west portion of the ROW, Corps' archaeologists walked this 1.17-acre portion to confirm an absence of cultural resources.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this project is considered to be the location of the new lines in the NMDOT ROW of 1.17 acres plus the 29.37-acre footprint of the business park for a total APE of 30.54 acres.

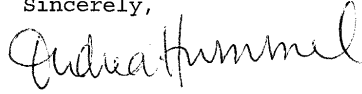
Based on this information, the Corps requests your concurrence in our determination of "no historic properties affected" for the business park expansion. A negative survey report is attached, titled "A 30.54 Acre Cultural Resources Survey for the Questa Business Park Water and Sewer Expansion Project, Questa, Taos County, New Mexico", prepared by Lance Lundquist, and dated April 23, 2008 (Enclosure 2).

Consistent with the Department of Defense's American Indian and Alaska Native Policy, signed by Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen on October 28, 1998, tribes that have indicated they have concerns in Taos County were contacted regarding Questa's water and sewer improvements. To date, the Corps has received no indication of tribal concerns about this project.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 800.13, should previously unknown artifacts or cultural resource manifestations be encountered during construction, work would cease in the immediate vicinity of the resource. A determination of significance would be made, and a mitigation plan would be formulated in consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer and with American Indian Tribes that have cultural concerns in the area.

If you have questions regarding the Village of Questa Business Park Expansion project, please contact Mr. Lance Lundquist, archaeologist, at (505) 342-3671 or me at (505) 342-3375.

Sincerely,




Ondrea Hummel
Chief, Environmental Resources
Section

5/5/08

Date

I CONCUR


KATHERINE SLICK
NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICER

Enclosures

Copies Furnished (with Attachements):

Ms. Gwyneth Duncan
New Mexico Department of Transportation
Environment Section
PO Box 1149, Room 213
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1149

Mr. Brent Jaramillo
PO Box 260
Questa, New Mexico 87556

Enclosure 1: SHPO Concurrence Letter

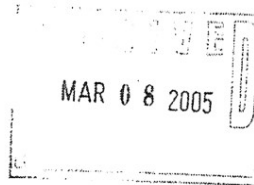


Gannett Fleming West, Inc.

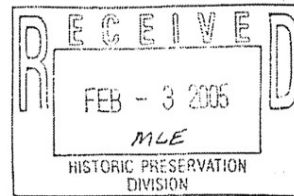
2155 Louisiana Boulevard, NE
Suite 9000
Albuquerque, New Mexico
87110

Office (505) 265-8468
Facsimile (505) 881-2513

February 2, 2005



073440



Ms. Katherine Slick
New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs
Historic Preservation Division
Room 320, La Villa Rivera
228 East Palace Avenue
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Subject: Cultural Resources Survey for the Village of Questa, Water and Wastewater System Improvements

Dear Ms. Slick:

Gannett Fleming West, Inc. (GFW), under subcontract to the Village of Questa, is preparing the design and environmental documentation for the Village of Questa's Water and Wastewater System Improvements Project. This includes performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act to assess the environmental impacts of water system improvements to the Village of Questa, Taos County, New Mexico.

Under subcontract to GFW, Townsend Archaeological Consultants, completed a cultural resource inventory for the subject project and summarized their findings in the attached report, dated January 25, 2005. The report concludes that the waterline project would have no effect on significant archaeological or historical properties.

The construction contract will state the following: "Contractors shall cease disturbance immediately in the event that features, artifacts, or human remains are encountered." In the event of an inadvertent discovery of cultural materials, ground disturbance in the discovery location shall cease immediately. The contractor shall notify the Project Manager immediately, so that notification to the State Historic Preservation Office can be made."

A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) will be used to fund Phase I of the Water System Improvements Project, which is scheduled to be constructed this year. The project, Water System Improvements, Phase I, includes the installation of a booster station and replacement of existing waterlines within the existing roadways and roadway easements and right-of-ways. The existing water system is quite old, undersized, and leaking. The proposed project is funded by a New Mexico Legislative Funds and a Community Development Block Grant and is administered by the New Mexico Local Government Division. All construction projects initiated by state or local units of government with grant funding from New Mexico Local Government Division are subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Native American tribes that may be culturally affiliated with traditional cultural properties or other kinds of sites within an "area of potential effects" were sent letters on September 17, 2004, requesting consultation prior to the beginning of project work. Copies of these letters and any responses are also enclosed.

The point of contact at the Village of Questa is Brent Jaramillo, (505) 856-0694. On behalf of the Village of Questa, a copy of the Cultural Resources Report is submitted to your office for your review and concurrence. We respectfully request a response within 30 days.

If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project further, please contact Carol Bicher at 505-265-8468, x119. Your assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

GANNETT FLEMING WEST, INC.

Carol Bicher for Gene Leyendecker

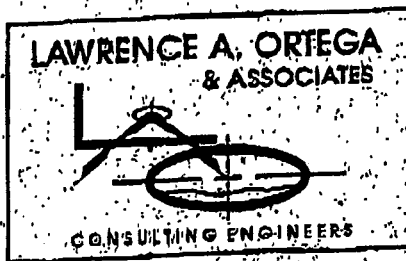
Gene Leyendecker
Project Manager

Enclosure

cc Brent Jaramillo, Village of Questa
Project File 43972

Concur with recommendation of
eligibility and/or effects as proposed.

Michael R. Elliott 3-6-05
for NM State Historic Preservation Officer



POST OFFICE BOX 2025 • TAOS, NEW MEXICO 87571 • 505 758-7304/FAX 758-7305

TRANSMITTAL

Date: September 24, 2007

To: Ms. Gwyneth Duncan
New Mexico Department of Transportation
Environmental Section
PO Box 1149, Room 213
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1149

FROM: Lawrence A. Ortega, P.E.

RE: Consultation of the proposed water and wastewater system improvements
for the Village of Questa, NM

Dear Ms. Duncan:

Lawrence A. Ortega and Associates (LAO) is currently working with the Village of Questa and the New Mexico Environment for design and improvements of the community water and wastewater systems. Construction of approximately 2,000 feet of wastewater and water lines on the west side of NM 522 is proposed.

Name of System: Village of Questa Water and Wastewater

Contact Name and Telephone: Mr. Brent Jaramillo
Tel: 586-0694
Mr. Lawrence A. Ortega
Tel: 758-7304

Description of Existing System:

The existing system consists of several miles of water and wastewater lines throughout the community of Questa.

Description of Proposed Improvements:

The project consists of system improvements including larger water distribution lines and appurtenances, and 8" wastewater collection lines and appurtenances. The project will be funded from State of New Mexico funds.

Page 2

Ms. Dinean

09/24/07

We respectfully respect your review for securing a construction utility permit from the NMDOT.

Attached is project information to assist you in your review.

If you have any questions or need clarification regarding this project, please feel free to call me at (505) 758-7304, or e-mail me at lao@taosnet.com

Project Information

1. (See attached bid ad)
2. No
3. State (NMED)
4. No
5. None
6. Taos
7. NM 522
8. Mile Post 22
9. West
10. 2,000 feet
11. Township 29 N. Range 13 E. County Section 19
12. Questa
13. (see attached)
14. okay
15. 758-7305
16. okay

CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY
NOT REQUIRED
NMDOT, ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION
and 9-28-07

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY
NOT REQUIRED
NMDOT, ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION

RUS Bulletin 1780-26
Exhibit D

Advertisement for Bids

Village of Questa

Owner

PO Box 260

Address

Questa NM 87556

Separate sealed Bids for the construction of
Water and Wastewater Lines and Appurtenances, including a wastewater system lift
station and appurtenances.

Will be received by The Village of Questa
at the office of Village Administrator and Clerk - Old State Road 3 - Questa,
New Mexico until 2:00 P.M., (Local Time) October 8, 2007, and then
At said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:
Lawrence A. Ortega & Associates - Engineer

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the Issuing Office of,

Lawrence A. Ortega & Associates (758-7304)

located at # 140 - SR 522 Las Colonias - Taos, NM upon payment of \$100.00 for each set.

09/20/07
Date

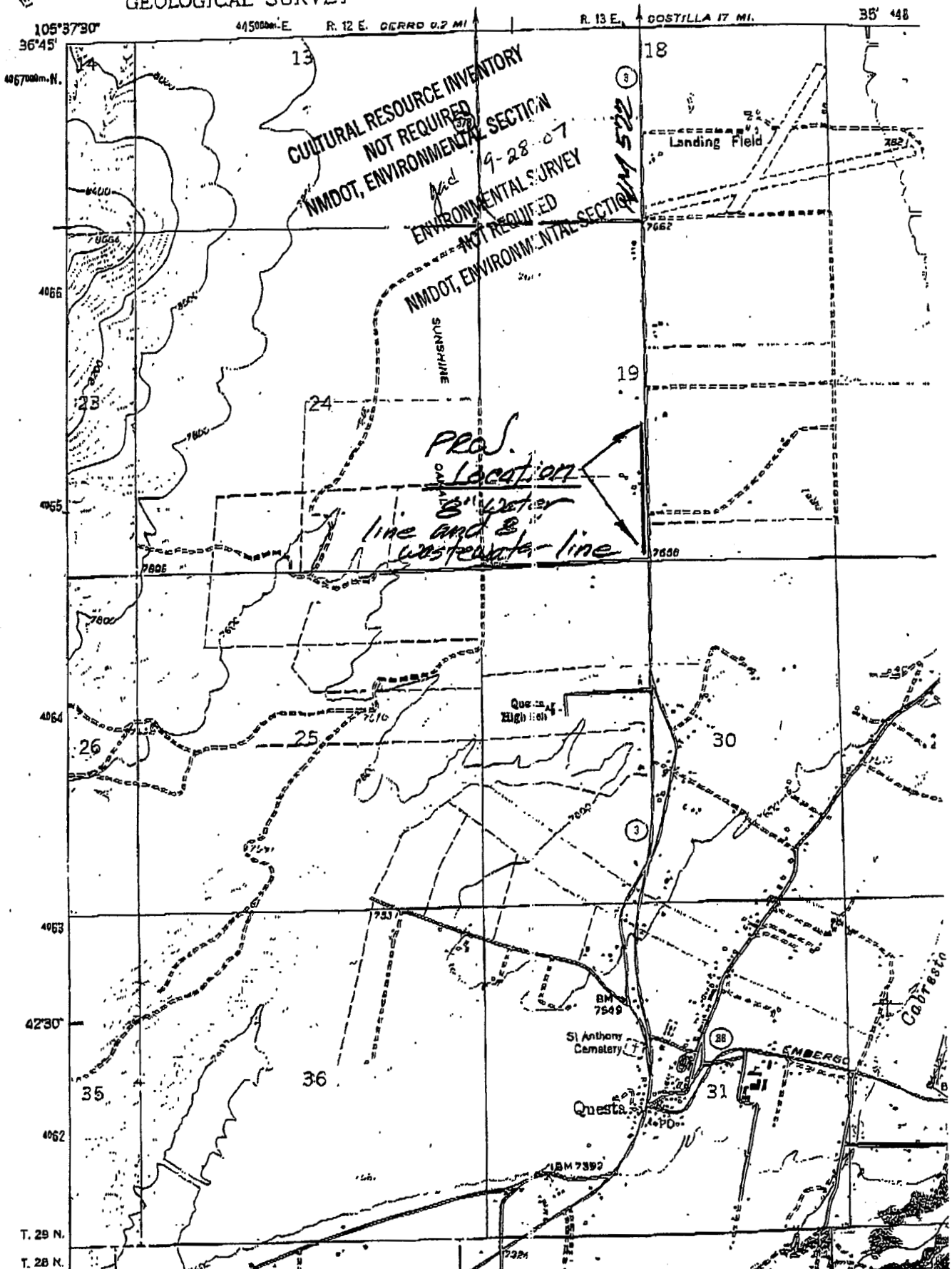
Malaquias Rael, Mayor

CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY
NOT REQUIRED
NMDOT, ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION

9-28-07
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY
NOT REQUIRED
NMDOT, ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

100' 1 SW
(SUNSHINE)





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-3435

April 23, 2008

Planning, Project and Program Management Division
Planning Branch
Environmental Resources Section

Ms. Katherine Slick
State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Division
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Ms. Slick:

Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, is seeking your concurrence in our determination of "no historic properties affected" for a water system improvement project at the Village of Questa (Questa), Taos County, New Mexico. Questa is about 22 miles north of Taos. Questa has requested Corps assistance under Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, Public Law 106-53, as amended, which authorizes the Corps to provide design and construction assistance for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in New Mexico.

The proposed project is a 2000-foot expansion of Questa's current approximately 121,000-foot long water and sewer project. The original project involves replacement of portions of the existing water and sewer supply system, which includes replacement of existing lines, valves, controls, and a booster station. The construction is located entirely within the Village of Questa, and the waterlines are located beneath or in the right-of-way (ROW) of existing roads.

Ms. Lisa Meyer of your office concurred with the Corps' "no adverse effect" determination on the original project on November 13, 2006 (HPD Log 079742). Townsend Archaeological Consultants conducted the survey for the original project (NMCRIIS 91472).

Questa contacted the Corps about an expansion of the water and sewer line to service a proposed 29.4-acre business park located at the northern portion of the village. This expansion

would involve placement of approximately 2,000 feet of 8" water and sewer pipe as well as a road to access the business park. Initially, an 8-10,000 square foot pre-fabricated manufacturing building on a concrete slab is planned for a 2-acre plot located just off State Route 522. Approximately half of the area to be piped is within the original approved project area. The Corps is not assisting in the development or construction of the business park, with the exception of the water and sewer infrastructure.

Corps' archaeologists conducted a remote Archaeological Records Management Section (ARMS) search on April 1, 2008, and concluded that the Townsend survey stopped just short of the proposed expansion. On April 15, 2008, Corps' archaeologists surveyed the previously unsurveyed portions of the proposed water and sewer expansion, as well as the business park that will be made possible through this Federally-assisted infrastructure project. No cultural resources were located during the intensive pedestrian survey.

Part of the sewer line runs adjacent to State Route 522. The contractors for the village contacted the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) concerning this project. On September 28, 2007, Ms. Gwyneth Duncan of NMDOT indicated that a "cultural resources inventory" was not required for this project (see Enclosure 1). The ARMS database indicates that the east side of the road has been surveyed, and potentially the west. As this project is on the west portion of the ROW, Corps' archaeologists walked this 1.17-acre portion to confirm an absence of cultural resources.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this project is considered to be the location of the new lines in the NMDOT ROW of 1.17 acres plus the 29.37-acre footprint of the business park for a total APE of 30.54 acres.

Based on this information, the Corps requests your concurrence in our determination of "no historic properties affected" for the business park expansion. A negative survey report is attached, titled "A 30.54 Acre Cultural Resources Survey for the Questa Business Park Water and Sewer Expansion Project, Questa, Taos County, New Mexico", prepared by Lance Lundquist, and dated April 23, 2008 (Enclosure 2).

Consistent with the Department of Defense's American Indian and Alaska Native Policy, signed by Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen on October 28, 1998, tribes that have indicated they

have concerns in Taos County were contacted regarding Questa's water and sewer improvements. To date, the Corps has received no indication of tribal concerns about this project.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 800.13, should previously unknown artifacts or cultural resource manifestations be encountered during construction, work would cease in the immediate vicinity of the resource. A determination of significance would be made, and a mitigation plan would be formulated in consultation with the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Officer and with American Indian Tribes that have cultural concerns in the area.

If you have questions regarding the Village of Questa Business Park Expansion project, please contact Mr. Lance Lundquist, archaeologist, at (505) 342-3671 or me at (505) 342-3375.

Sincerely,

Ondrea Hummel
Chief, Environmental Resources
Section

_____ Date	I CONCUR _____ KATHERINE SLICK NEW MEXICO STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
---------------	--

Enclosures

Copies Furnished (with Attachements):

Ms. Gwyneth Duncan
New Mexico Department of Transportation
Environment Section
PO Box 1149, Room 213
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1149

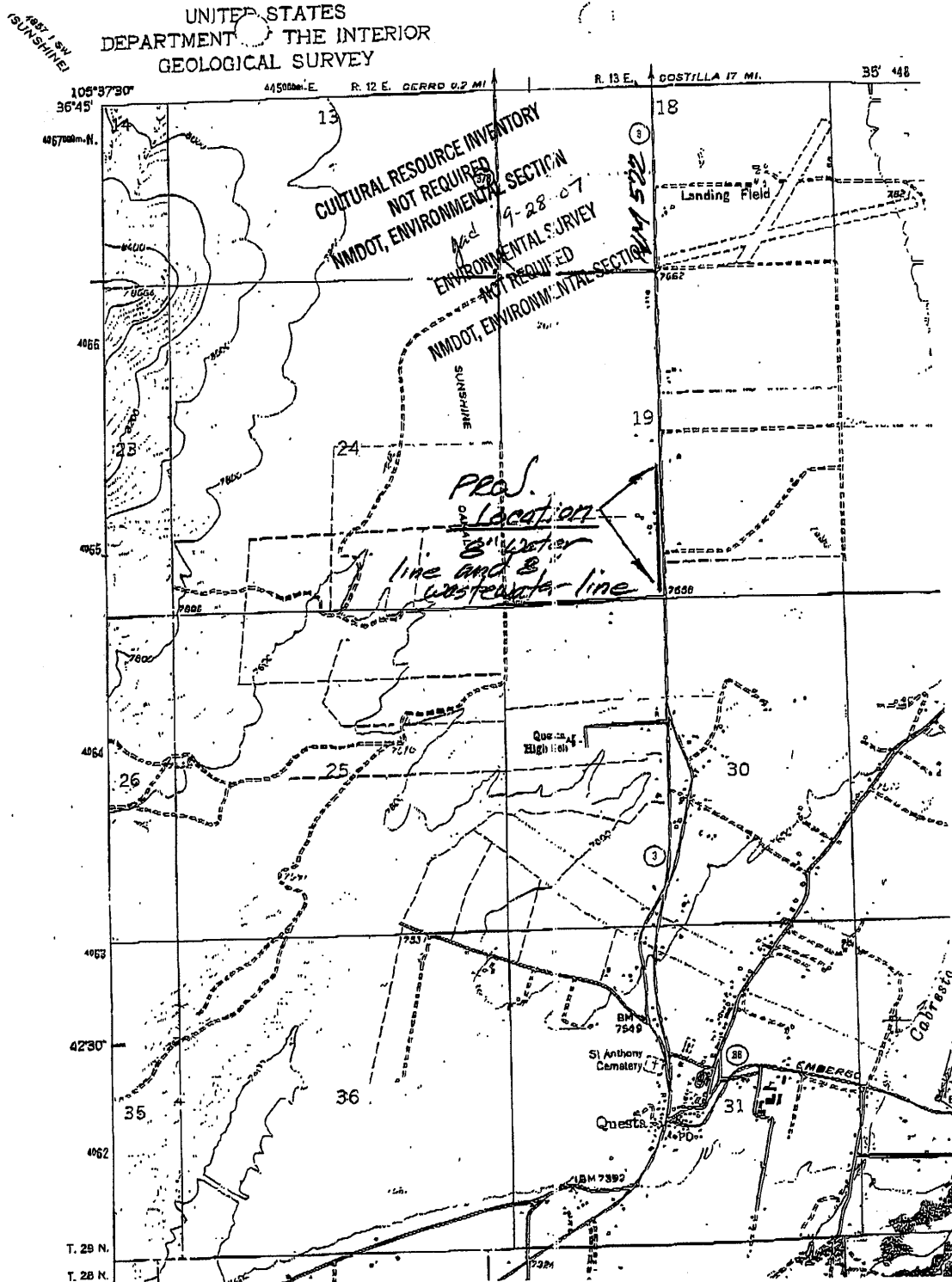
Mr. Brent Jaramillo
PO Box 260
Questa, New Mexico 87556

Enclosure 1: NMDOT Letter

09/28/2007 13:16 FAX 505 827 6862
SEP/24/2007/MON 01:58 PM Lawrence J. Ortega

NMSHTD ENVIR. SECTION
FAX No. 5057587305

006
P. 007



Enclosure 2: NMCRIS Negative Survey Report

Appendix B

Biological Coordination



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-3435

May 19, 2008

Planning, Project and Program Management Division
Planning Branch
Environmental Resources Section

Mr. Wally Murphy
Acting Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office
2105 Osuna Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Attention: David Campbell, Aquatics Branch

Dear Mr. Murphy:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, in cooperation and at the request of the Village of Questa in Taos County, New Mexico is planning to construct sewer and water distribution lines in Village of Questa, Taos County, New Mexico. The proposed project would construct: 1) 2,000 lineal feet of 8" water main line; 2) 1,700 lineal feet of 4" sewer force main line; and 3) 1,950 lineal feet of 8" sewer collection line in the Village of Questa. The project would abandon the existing water line, which is bedded in molybdenum tailings and install new water lines. The entire Village of Questa would benefit from the proposed improvement of the water lines. The duration of the proposed construction period is two years and is expected to start in the summer of 2008.

The Corps is conducting a public review of the project Draft Environmental Assessment and FONSI to contact all necessary parties. Enclosed for your review is the Draft FONSI, entitled "Questa Water System Improvements Village of Questa, New Mexico". Public review of the Draft Environmental Assessment began on May 20, 2008 and will run for 30 days until June 19, 2008. Copies are available on the Corps web site at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil> (go to FONSI / Environmental Assessments). The Corps is sending copies of the Draft FONSI to

solicit comments from Federal, State, and local interests to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Please review the Draft FONSI and provide any written comments to the above address, Attn: Mr. Michael Porter, Environmental Resources Section. Written comments must be received **no later than June 21, 2008**, so that comments can be addressed and revisions made to the FONSI in a timely manner. **If you need additional time to respond, please contact Mr. Porter immediately.** If we do not hear from your agency or receive comments by this date, we will assume you have no concerns or have no objections to the project. You may facsimile your correspondence to (505) 342-3668. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Michael Porter at (505) 342-3264 or e-mail at Michael.D.Porter@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Julie Alcon
Chief, Environmental Resources
Section

Enclosures



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4101 JEFFERSON PLAZA NE
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87109-3435

May 19, 2008

Planning, Project and Program Management Division
Planning Branch
Environmental Resources Section

Mr. Matt Wunder
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Conservation Services Division
P.O. Box 25112
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Dear Mr. Wunder:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, in cooperation and at the request of the Village of Questa in Taos County, New Mexico is planning to construct sewer and water distribution lines in Village of Questa, Taos County, New Mexico. The proposed project would construct: 1) 2,000 lineal feet of 8" water main line; 2) 1,700 lineal feet of 4" sewer force main line; and 3) 1,950 lineal feet of 8" sewer collection line in the Village of Questa. The project would abandon the existing water line, which is bedded in molybdenum tailings and install new water lines. The entire Village of Questa would benefit from the proposed improvement of the water lines. The duration of the proposed construction period is two years and is expected to start in the summer of 2008.

The Corps is conducting a public review of the project Draft Environmental Assessment and FONSI to contact all necessary parties. Enclosed for your review is the Draft FONSI, entitled "Questa Water System Improvements Village of Questa, New Mexico". Public review of the Draft Environmental Assessment began on May 20, 2008 and will run for 30 days until June 19, 2008. Copies are available on the Corps web site at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil> (go to FONSI / Environmental Assessments). The Corps is sending copies of the Draft FONSI to solicit comments from Federal, State, and local interests to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Please review the Draft FONSI and provide any written comments to the above address, Attn: Mr. Michael Porter, Environmental Resources Section. Written comments must be received **no later than June 21, 2008**, so that comments can be addressed and revisions made to the FONSI in a timely manner. **If you need additional time to respond, please contact Mr. Porter immediately.** If we do not hear from your agency or receive comments by this date, we will assume you have no concerns or have no objections to the project. You may facsimile your correspondence to (505) 342-3668. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Michael Porter at (505) 342-3264 or e-mail at Michael.D.Porter@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Julie Alcon
Chief, Environmental Resources
Section

Enclosures

Appendix C

Public Review Comments

Appendix D

Notice of Draft EA Availability

Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Assessment for the
Questa Water System Improvements, Village of Questa, New Mexico

Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provision of the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Albuquerque District, has completed a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for a proposal to construct wastewater collection and water distribution lines.

The proposed project would construct: 1) 2,000 lineal feet of 8" water main line; 2) 1,700 lineal feet of 4" sewer force main line; and 3) 1,950 lineal feet of 8" sewer collection line in the Village of Questa.

Public review of the DEA will begin on May 22, 2008 and will run for 21 days until June 12. The document will also be available on the Corps web site at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil> (go to FONSI/Environmental Assessments). A hard copy will be sent upon written request. Comments on the DEA / FONSI should be sent to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Albuquerque District
Environmental Resources Section
Attn: CESP-PM-LE (Michael Porter)
4101 Jefferson Plaza NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109-3435

Paper copies of this document are also available for review at:

Red River Public Library
East Main Street, Hwy 38
Red River, NM 87558

For more information please contact Michael Porter, USACE, (505) 342-3264 or Michael.D.Porter@usace.army.mil

#####